

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lawrence (US 7,181,428). Claims have been amended and allowance of all pending claims is requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lawrence (US 7,181,428). The Examiner's rejection is based on alleged anticipation by Lawrence that addresses the question of how to discover potential political risks to a politically identified person from a host of potential events and activities. However, the instant application is addressing the discovery of potential money laundering financial transactions performed by a branch of a financial institution.

The Applicants have amended the claims to more accurately recite the present invention relating to a system and method for identifying potential money laundering activities within a set of financial transactions.

Accordingly, the claims have been modified to clarify that these claims apply to discovering financial irregularities in financial processing situations, and do so in a manner that cannot be confused with or read on the method and system that Lawrence teaches to discover potential political risks to a politically identified person from a host of potential events and activities. As such, Lawrence fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of independent claims 1 and 12 as amended in as much as it fails to teach or suggest identifying financial transactions related to money laundering as recited therein. Claims 1 and 12 are now patentable over the prior art of record.

For similar reasoning, claims 2-10 and 13-23, which depend from independent claims 1 and 12 respectively, are also patentable over the prior art of record. None of the other prior art of record remedies the deficiencies of Lawrence as discussed above. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully maintain that the present application is now in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on all these considerations and amendment, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims. If any issues remain that preclude issuance of this application, the Examiner is again urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,

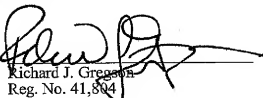
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By their attorneys,

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